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SCR 178
REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE ISSUANCE OF
DECLARATORY RULINGS BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Statement for
House Committee on
Planning, Energy and Environmental Protection
Public Hearing - April 20, 1989

By
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SCR 178 requests the Legislative Reference Bureau to study the issues causing uncertainty over the authority of the Environmental Council to issue declaratory rulings on the applicability of statutory provisions of the environmental impact statement law and to report to the 1990 legislature on its findings and recommendations.

As cited in the various Whereas clauses, uncertainty as to the authority of the Environmental council to issue Declaratory Rulings presents a serious administrative deficiency in the present environmental management process. The requested study by the Legislative Reference Bureau to identify issues relevant to the Environmental Council's authority to issue declaratory rulings should greatly improve the efficiency and environmental management options in the state. Furthermore, the development by the neutral Legislative Reference Bureau of the requested specific legislative amendments or other means to mitigate the uncertainties should assure that this long standing issue is finally resolved. The Environmental Center will be please to assist the Legislative Reference Bureau in the requested study.